



NEWS RELEASE

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Caution Urged Around Wildfire Smoke

BISMARCK, N.D. – In light of today's wildfire south of Bismarck and other wildfires that have burned across the state in recent weeks, the North Dakota Department of Health is urging residents to avoid inhaling wildfire smoke and to stay well away from the actual fires. Staying away from the fires allows crews to do their work to suppress the fire, and also protects residents from the adverse effects of smoke inhalation.

Wildfire smoke contains particulates that can be irritating to the respiratory system. Those who suffer from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), or conditions such as asthma and allergies, can have strong adverse reactions to wildfire smoke. If a person finds themselves reacting to wildfire smoke to the extent that it is affecting their breathing, they should see help from a medical provider.

For more information, contact Terry O'Clair, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.5188.

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